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Notice of the State of Florida's Request to Assume Administration of a Clean Water Act Section 404 Program

On August 20, 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 (EPA) received a complete package from the State of Florida requesting to assume administration of a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 program per the provisions of CWA Section 404(g)(1). The EPA is providing notice in the Federal Register on this matter, seeking comment during a 45-day period that will start with publication of the Federal Register notice, and holding two public hearings respectively on October 21 and 27, 2020. The EPA intends to approve or disapprove the program no later than December 17, 2020. The Federal Register notice includes additional information on the State's proposed program and on the process for the EPA's review, and may be accessed at [HYPERLINK "http://www.regulations.gov"], Docket No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0640, FRL-10014-54-Region 4.

Due to COVID-19, the EPA will hold the public hearings as virtual hearings. For more information and how to register to attend or speak, please see [HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-epa-region-4-southeast"]. Written comments may be submitted to the EPA through the Federal eRulemaking Portal, Docket No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0640, FRL-10014-54-Region 4, available at [HYPERLINK "http://www.regulations.gov"]. The documents comprising Florida's submittal requesting to assume administration of a CWA Section 404 program can also be found at Docket No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0640.

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the EPA has determined that our action on Florida's request is a federal undertaking and therefore is engaging in consultation under NHPA Section 106. The EPA invites the public to submit comment on this consultation through the eRulemaking portal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Kelly Laycock; Ocean, Wetlands, and Stream Protection Branch; USEPA Region 4; 61 Forsyth St SW; Atlanta, GA 30303, [HYPERLINK "mailto:404Assumption-FL@epa.gov"].